28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns Contact: Tara Martinak (541) 573-4400 • Release No. OR-020-08-15 • April 2, 2008

## PUBLIC ASKED TO COMMENT ON RECREATION PLAN FOR STEENS MOUNTAIN

**HINES, Oregon** – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Burns District is working on a plan to assess, determine and provide for recreational opportunities on Steens Mountain and invites the public to be part of the planning process. For persons interested in recreation and its future on Steens Mountain, this is the time to get involved and have a part in management of public lands.

The Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (the Act) designated over 428,000 acres of pristine landscape for special management and increased resource protection in southeast Oregon. The Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA) is home to an extraordinary landscape with deep glacier carved gorges, stunning scenery, wilderness, wild rivers, a rich diversity of plant and animal species, and a way of life for all who live there. The diverse scenic and recreational experiences in the area attract outdoor enthusiasts through all seasons, from all walks of life. Over the next year, BLM will be looking into those diverse recreation opportunities and how they should be managed in the future.

"Some questions the public needs to consider might be: Do you think existing recreation sites meet your needs? Are there changes you would suggest? Is there a need for additional trails? What kinds of educational materials would improve your visit to the area?" said Burns District Manager Dana Shuford.

Remember, when providing input for the Steens Mountain Comprehensive Recreation Plan, please be as specific as possible about your concerns and possible solutions you would like the BLM to consider. Information about particular sites or areas, or a certain type of activity or season of use on Steens Mountain are the most helpful to the BLM in developing management alternatives.

Comments on the Steens Mountain Comprehensive Recreation Plan should be submitted, in writing, to:

BLM Mr. Rob Perrin, Outdoor Recreation Planner 28910 Hwy 20 West Hines, Oregon, 97738

or through email at: SteensRecPlan@blm.gov

